Application No. 10/052,441
Amendment dated June 15, 2005
Reply to Office Action of December 15, 2004

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Original) A method of upgrading a computer system having a first software component and a second software component, said first and second software components operating at a current version, said method comprising:

upgrading the first software component to an upgraded version; and

validating the performance of the upgraded first software component, said validating comprising translating messages originating at the first software component from an upgraded version format to a current version format.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said computer system comprises a first processor executing the first software component and a second processor executing the second software component.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the first software component comprises at least one interface, and said upgrading comprises upgrading the interface.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

querying [a]any version of the first software component and the second software component; and

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determining a compatible version for the computer system.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the compatible version is the current

version.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said upgrading comprises adding new

features and said validating comprises disabling the new features.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, further comprising activating the new features if

the validating is acceptable.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising upgrading the second software

component to the upgraded version if the validating is acceptable.

9. (Original) A computer system comprising:

a first processor;

a second processor coupled to said first processor;

a computer readable memory having instructions stored thereon that cause a first software

component to be executed by said first processor, and a second software component to be

executed by said second processor;

said instructions further causing said computer system to:

upgrade the first software component to an upgraded version; and

validate the performance of the upgraded first software component, said

validating comprising translating messages originating at the first software component

from an upgraded version format to a current version format.

10. (Original) The computer system of claim 9, wherein the first software component

comprises at least one interface, and said upgrading comprises upgrading the interface.

11. (Currently Amended) The computer system of claim 9, said instructions further

causing said computer system to:

query [a]any version of the first software component and the second software component;
and

determine a compatible version for the computer system.

12. (Original) The computer system of claim 11, wherein the compatible version is the

current version.

13. (Original) The computer system of claim 9, wherein said upgrading comprises

adding new features and said validating comprises disabling the new features.

14. (Original) The computer system of claim 13, said instructions further causing said

computer system to activate the new features if the validating is acceptable.

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15. (Original) The computer system of claim 9, said instructions further causing said

computer system to upgrade the second software component to the upgraded version if the

validating is acceptable.

16. (Original) The computer system of claim 9, wherein said first and second processors

comprise a fault tolerant system.

17. (Original) The computer system of claim 9, wherein said first and second processors

comprise a multi-processor system.

18. (Original) An upgradable computer system comprising:

a first software component and a second software component, said first and second

software components operating at a current version;

means for upgrading the first software component to an upgraded version; and

means for validating the performance of the upgraded first software component,

comprising means for translating messages originating at the first software component from an

upgraded version format to a current version format.

19. (Original) The computer system of claim 18, further comprising a first processor

executing the first software component and a second processor executing the second software

component.

20. (Original) The computer system of claim 18, wherein the first software component

comprises at least one interface, and said means for upgrading comprises upgrading the interface.

21. (Currently Amended) The computer system of claim 18, further comprising:

means for querying [a]any version of the first software component and the second

software component; and

means for determining a compatible version for the computer system.

22. (Currently Amended) A fault tolerant computer system comprising a software

component adapted to be used in [a]said fault tolerant computer system, said software

component further comprising:

an interface; and

a translation function;

wherein said translation function translates messages from said interface to a version

common to all other software components of the computer system.

23. (Currently Amended) The software componentfault tolerant computer system of

claim 22, wherein said interface is upgraded.